[8th December 1954

Retrenchment of staff due to abolition of food control.

* 281 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the number of Government servants discharged from service by reason of decontrol of food in this State in 1954?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer furnished to clause (*a*) of question No. 280 by Sri M. Narayana Kurup, M.L.A., on the same subject."

Stopping of Madras-Mangalore and Mangalore-Madras Express trains at Pattambi.

* 282 *Q.*—Sri K. KUNHI MOHAMMED SHAFEE : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any memorandum was received by the Government from the public of Pattambi, Malabar district, requesting the Government to represent to the Union Government to stop Nos. 513 and 514, Madras-Mangalore and Mangalore-Madras Express trains at Pattambi Railway Station ; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken in the matter?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A memorandum on the subject was received from the President, Congress Committee, Pattambi, and the matter was taken up with the General Manager, Southern Railway.

The Southern Railway Administration stated that the request of the Congress Committee could not be complied with, as the traffic offering at the stations was predominantly short distance traffic which could be served by other trains and the stopping of Expresses at such stations would slow down fast trains and defeat the object of running fast trains. This was communicated to the petitioner."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—PRIVILEGE MOTION *RE* DISCLOSURE OF OPINION OF THE GOVERNMENT ON THE QUESTION OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE ALL-INDIA CONGRESS COMMITTEE WHILE DENYING IT TO THE HOUSE

Mr. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member, Mr. Narayana Kurup, has given notice of a Privilege Motion which reads as follows :—

'In view of the fact that in answering starred questions 594, 266 and 654 on 7th December 1954, it has been revealed that the opinion of this Government regarding constitutional amendments has been conveyed to the Central Government by the Hon. the Finance Minister and to the General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee by the Hon. the Chief Minister allegedly in his private capacity, and which opinion the Government have refused to disclose to the members of the House on the ground of privileged communication, this House feels that a question of the privilege of this House is involved in non-disclosure of the contents of the communication to this House as well as in its disclosure to a third party ; so the House resolves to send the matter to the Committee of Privileges for consideration and report.'